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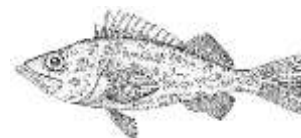
# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
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Sitka Area Office  
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Sitka, AK 99835  
Date: September 28, 2012  
Time: 3:00 p.m.

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#### 2012 FALL DEMERSAL SHELF ROCKFISH FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) announced today that the 2012 directed fishery for Demersal Shelf Rockfish (DSR) will reopen in the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict and portions of the Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) Subdistrict on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. These areas will remain open until allocations are taken or until 4:00 p.m. December 31, whichever occurs first. Catch and effort will be closely monitored and area closures may occur on short notice. Closures will be announced by news release, on the United States Coast Guard "Notice to Mariners" report, and on the National Weather Service broadcast. Updates of area closures will also be available on the Groundfish Hotline at (907)747-4882.

The seven species of rockfish in the DSR assemblage are yelloweye, quillback, canary, rosethorn, copper, china, and tiger.

#### Harvest Guidelines for the Directed DSR Fishery

Area	Round lb	Metric ton (mt)
NSEI	53,344	24.2
SSEI	47,897	21.7

#### The following waters are closed to directed fishing for DSR:

**In the Ketchikan vicinity:** all waters of Behm Canal, Clarence Strait, Tongass Narrows, Nichols Passage, George Inlet, Carroll Inlet, Thorne Arm, Revillagigedo Channel, and all contiguous waters enclosed by the latitude of Bushy Point Light, a line from Point Alava to the southernmost tip of Ham Island, a line from Cedar Point to Dall Head, and a line from Dall Head to a point in midstream Clarence Strait at the latitude of Dall Head to Caamano Point.

**In the vicinity of Craig and Klawock:** all waters of Ulloa Channel north of the latitude of Waterfall Cannery, and all waters enclosed by a line from the southernmost tip of St. Philip Island to the northernmost tip of San Fernando Island, to Point Cangrejo.

**In the vicinity of Cordova Bay:** all waters of Tlevak Strait south of Tlevak Narrows, Sukkwan Strait, Hetta Inlet, Nutkwa Inlet, Klakas Inlet, Kaigani Strait, and the waters of Cordova Bay that are north of 54°40' N. latitude, and west of 132° W. longitude. This area includes all waters within groundfish statistical areas 325501, 325502, and 325433.

**In NSEI:** the waters of Glacier Bay and the waters of Dundas Bay north and west of a line running from 58°22.90' N. latitude, 136°25.30' W. longitude, and 58°23.60' N. latitude, 136°24.60' W. longitude.

### **General Provisions**

Fishermen are required to register their vessel with the department prior to participating in the fall directed DSR fishery. Logbooks are required and a copy of the logbook pages detailing a landing must be attached to the fish ticket at the time of that landing. Fishermen are required to report the location of catch by set in latitude and longitude for start and ending positions, amount of gear (skates and hooks), depth of each set, and amount of catch per set by species. Logbooks are available at department area offices.

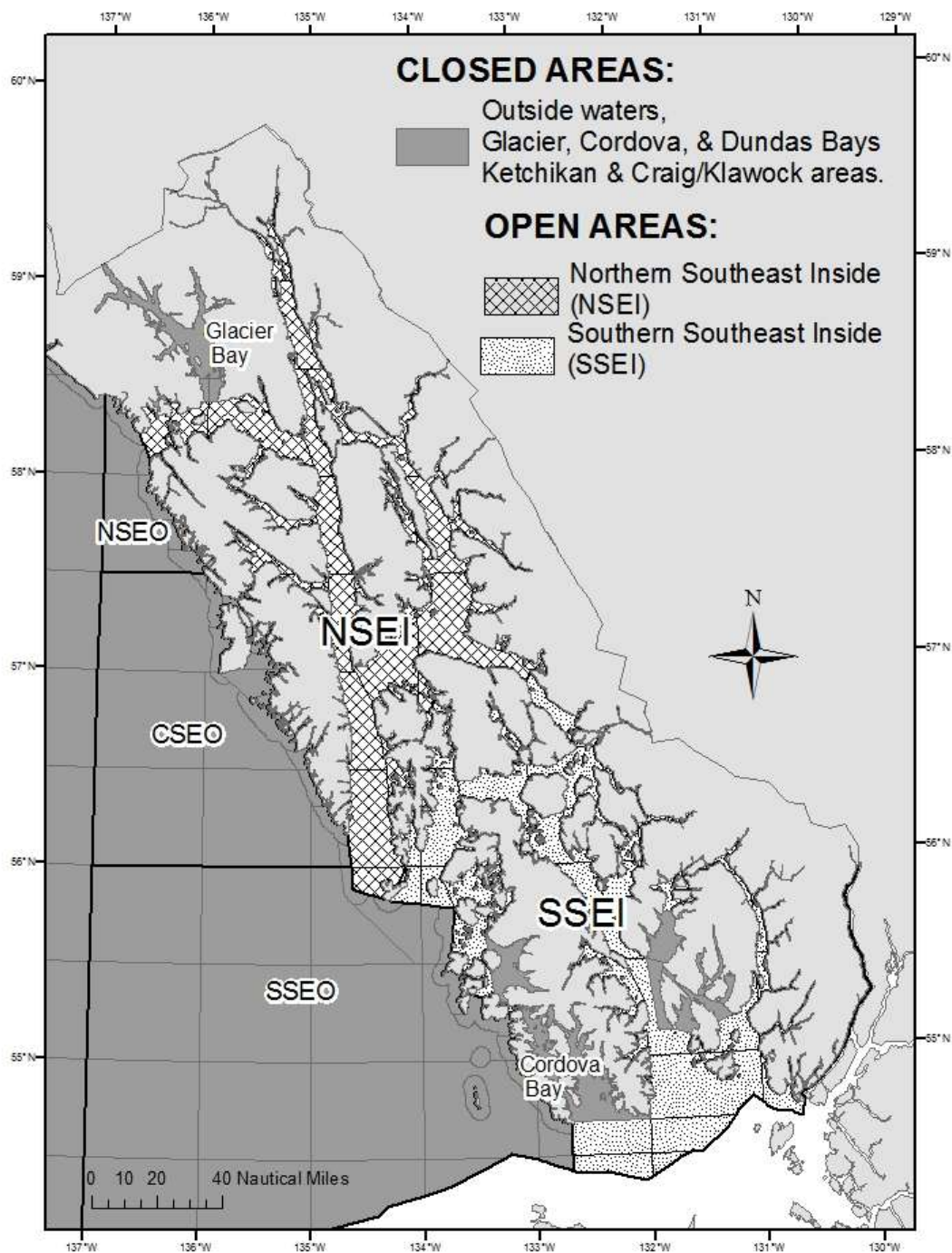
In the Southeast District, DSR may be taken in the directed fishery by longline, hand troll, dinglebar, and mechanical jig gear. A Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) "Y" interim use permit is required for the DSR directed fishery. In the NSEI and SSEI Subdistricts, a vessel or CFEC permit holder may not sell more than 6,000 pounds (bled weight) of DSR in any five-day period. When fishing in the NSEI and SSEI Subdistricts, full retention of all rockfish is required, excluding thornyhead. All rockfish taken in excess of trip or bycatch limits must be landed, weighed, and reported on a department fish ticket. DSR taken in excess of the trip limit shall be forfeited to the State. If excess rockfish bycatch is sold, proceeds from the sale shall be surrendered to the State. The permit holder may retain excess rockfish bycatch for personal use in accordance with 5 AAC 39.010; the pounds must be documented as overage on the fish ticket.

### **Bycatch Provisions**

Bycatch provisions for DSR longline and jig permits are listed in the following table. Bycatch allowances are based on the aggregate round weight of DSR onboard.

<b>Bycatch Species</b>	<b>Bycatch Allowance</b>
Lingcod	Longline fishery- 35%; 27" minimum size limit. Jig fishery- 10% in SSEOC*. Jig bycatch closes November 30. Jig fishery- 0% in NSEI and SSEIW.
Shortraker and Rougheye	7% in aggregate. Full retention required.
Black, Blue, and Dark Rockfish	15% in aggregate. Full retention required.
Thornyhead and Other Rockfish	15% in aggregate. Full retention required, excluding thornyhead.
Pacific cod	20%. Full retention required when directed Pacific cod season open.
Dogfish	Longline fishery- 35%. Jig fishery- 20%.
Sablefish	0%.
Other Groundfish	20%.

\*Lingcod bycatch is open in the DSR jig fishery only in the portion of the Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) that overlaps with SSEI. Lingcod retention is permitted in groundfish statistical areas 345535, 335533, 335534, and portions of 335535 and 335506 until November 30.



**This map is for general reference only.**

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220